

## SPRING 2007 LECTURE SCHEDULE

# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN PITTSBURGH



**THE OBJECTS OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY:**  
To form a nucleus of the Universal Brother & Sisterhood of Humanity regardless of race, sex, caste, creed or color. To encourage the study of comparative religion, philosophy and science. To investigate the unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in humanity.

*Unless otherwise announced, all lectures this lecture season are presented Sundays from 1:30 to approx. 3:00 PM and are held in room 232 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of The Cathedral of Learning on the Campus of Pitt University (See map on Page 4). Attendees need not be a member of the society. Unless otherwise indicated, all programs may be attended free of charge.*

*Call our 24-hour automated phone system at (412) 462-4200 for the most current information on lectures and Society sponsored events. This number will have all the latest information on weather and unforeseen cancellations. Officers can be reached at this same number.*

## Welcome Back

We are a little later with this schedule than we would have liked. In large part our tardiness is due to changes in the University of Pittsburgh's room use policies and their resulting fallout. Because of the logistics involved in receiving rental fees, the Asian Studies Department, our sponsor of over 15 years, was unable to continue to assist with our room use. Their assistance has been invaluable and has helped us prosper. We owe them a special debt of gratitude and extend a special thank you to our good friend Dianne Dakis – her kind and generous efforts are appreciated in more ways than can be expressed.

With the assistance of our friends at Asian Studies we have been able to find another sponsor who is more suited to administer the details of the new Pitt policies and for whose efforts we are very grateful. While the new room charges continue to be quite a hurdle, we have begun to move forward again.

This term we find ourselves in room 232 of the Cathedral of Learning due to a renovation project in Posvar Hall. There is no elevator to this floor, but for those who need assistance there is an elevator dedicated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Take this elevator and walk down one easy flight of stairs to the second floor.

Parking is available in all our old locations, however the parking garage at Soldier's and Sailors hall is by far the closest. Although do keep in mind that unlike the on street Sunday parking – this garage charges.

Your ongoing financial support has been critical. We continue to research funding sources and other alternatives, but our ability to use facilities like Pitt's continues to depend on your increased generosity.

Thank you all.

Namaste

Andrew Nesky  
President  
The Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh.

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### June

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3<sup>rd</sup>

#### *DOUBLE FEATURE*

##### **THE SCIENCE OF DREAMS** – Ruth & Charque Newell

A dream is the experience of the underside of consciousness. More aptly, as Ruth's oracle once put it, a dream is a language to recreate or communicate an experience or awareness from another part of self. We will explore the language and origins of dreams, and we will show that they are an integral part of our experience. The subsequent movie turns our physical world inside out. We need to face the fact that "reality" as we know it would be impossible without the dream experience. Dreams are our momentary glimpses of the real fabric that ties this physical plane together.

*MOVIE!*

##### **THE SCIENCE OF SLEEP**

*"To Sleep – Perchance to Dream". (See description: Page 4)*

10<sup>th</sup>

#### **LECTURE TRINITY**

##### **ILLUSIONS** – Richard Herman

Theosophy tells us that we suffer from illusion. What are illusions? Do we create them or are they a part of our consciousness? Why do we suffer from them? Are they something we can be cured of? Richard will present examples of illusion and offer his own thoughts on the matter.

##### **THE VALUE OF NATURAL MEDICINE** – David Speer

Learn principles of anatomy, physiology and holistic health that can be used to help yourself, your family and friends. Naturopathy is the description of natural processes that can be used to restore health and well-being. With David's help learn how easily assimilated minerals may solve physical, emotional and spiritual maladies.

##### **"THE WORK" 202** – Andrea Harman

Andrea will describe the disciplines of Self-Remembering and Self-Observation as primarily important perennial ideas found in all known paths to Enlightenment. It is said, enlightenment cannot be attained without these disciplines. Even though that is the case - very few teachings address the technique, process and roadblocks to Enlightenment as well as "The Work". Examples of correct and incorrect experiences of Self-Observation will be discussed and challenged. Join us as we look within yet never seem to look.

17<sup>th</sup>

##### **rites of passage** – Andrew Nesky

The term "Rite of Passage" was popularized by ethnographer Arnold van Gennep in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He posited that this process was divided into three phases: Separation, Liminality (time at a threshold) and Incorporation. While this process is widely understood in its social contexts, its role in developing personal consciousness is not widely understood. Join Theosophical Society President Andrew Nesky for an investigation of the evolution and elevation of human consciousness.



*June Cont..*

24<sup>h</sup> **MEDICAL & SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TO AFRICA – Dan Wagner**  
Dr. Dan Wagner has traveled to Africa ten times in the past 10 years. He has done medical volunteer work in hospitals in 3 countries, but mainly in Nigeria. His program will feature some of the medical mission work, but also touch upon his association with tribal indigenous healers (shamans), medicine men and women, and visits to the poorest people living deep in the bush that has led him on a spiritual journey.

**SUMMER BREAK – SEE YOU IN THE FALL!**

## **Speaker's Biographies**

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**Andrea Harman** has studied esoteric teachings for 30 years. She has been involved with the Theosophical Society since 1992 and is the current TS secretary and part time cook.

**Richard Herman** is a gardener/landscaper working in the Sewickley area for the past 30 years. He designs and installs gardens and garden architecture.

**Andrew Nesky** is the president of the Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh. He has twice been elected to the position of Master of a Masonic Lodge and is a published writer. An actor with regional credits, he also lectures on the subject of metaphysics and human development and has coached high-school competitive public speaking, specializing in value-based Lincoln-Douglas format debate. In addition to being a ULC Minister, he has hosted the web-casted talk show "Science and the Outer Streams" which investigates the frontiers of human thought, science and spirituality.

**Ruth and Charque Newell** (also known as "Tarot with Ruth and Charque") operate THE UPPER ROOM, A School of Mysticism, where they also give readings and workshops. They practice and teach their version of "Practical Mysticism", using various metaphysical tools: Tarot, Runes, I Ching, Dreams, Meditation, A course in Miracles, and Nature's Mysteries. Ruth and Charque can be reached at (412) 731-3747

**David Speer** has been a student and practitioner of the healing arts for over 25 years. He is considered a master of reflexology and an expert on therapeutic massage. As a practitioner, teacher and ordained minister his latest healing work comes out of where science and religion are coming together. David is an instructor of the healing arts for Pennsylvania University, California University-PA, Community College of Allegheny County and West Virginia Community College. He can be reached at (412) 363-3569.

**Dr. Dan Wagner** is a natural and clinical pharmacist and owner of Nutri-farmacy, Western PA's only "all natural" pharmacy since 1997. Dr Dan practices "integrative medicine" and consults with people on the benefits versus risks who take both prescription medicines and alternatives medicines. He also integrates proper nutritional factors, diet, exercise, and stress management in his practice and incorporates rainforest products and natural techniques. Nutri-farmacy sells quality vitamins and supplements and provides a number of natural diagnostic tools. [www.nutrifarmacy.com](http://www.nutrifarmacy.com)

## **Theosophical Society Movie Series**

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Ever finish a movie and say, "Wow – that was *really* deep," maybe wishing you had some way to further explore the ideas you'd just encountered? *Well wish no more!* Join the Theosophical Society once each month after a scheduled lecture to view some of the finest "deep" movies and documentaries ever made.

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*Movies Cont.*

Each month the movie will be introduced by a member or guest lecturer and then after the movie – stay for the discussion and questions! (See the main schedule for dates and times)

## **THE SCIENCE OF SLEEP** – Fantasy

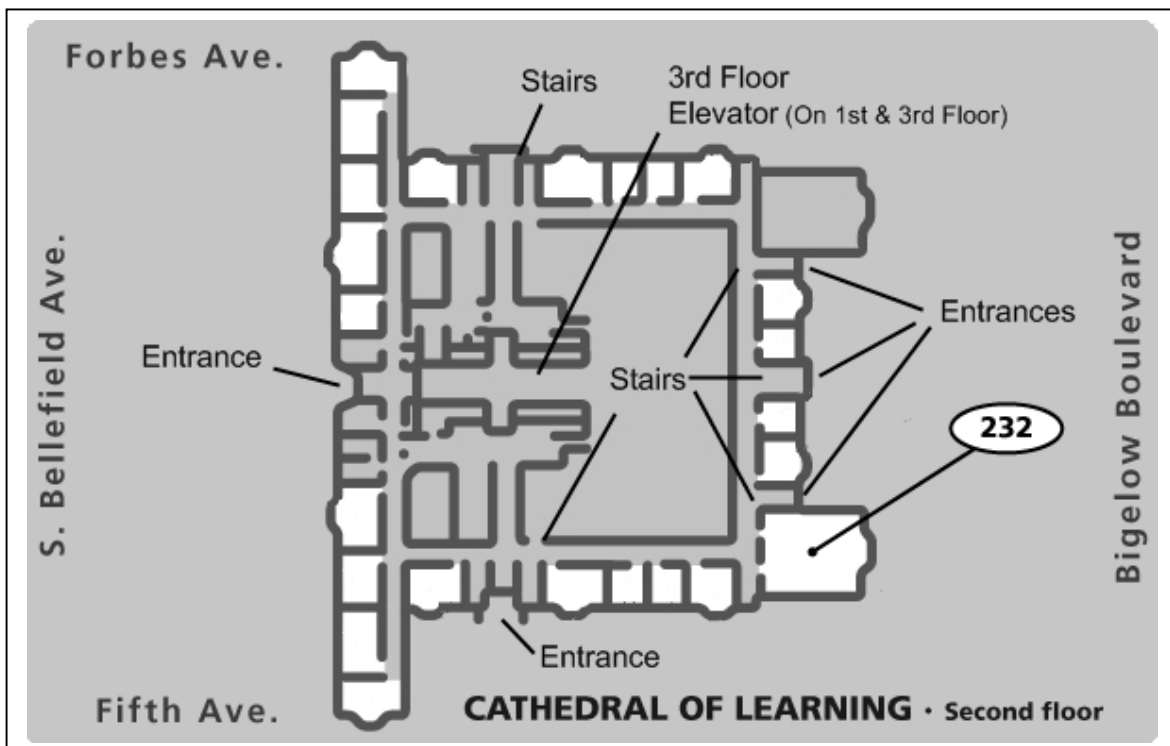
**Director:** Michel Gondry

**Run Time:** 106 min

**Starring:** Gael Garcia Bernal, Charlotte Gainsborough, Alan Chabat, Miou-Miou, Sacha Bourdo, Decourt Moyaen, Emma De Caunes, Stephane Metzger, Aurelia Petit

**Description:** Life seems to be looking up for shy and withdrawn Stephane (Gael Garcia Bernal) when he returns to his childhood home with the promise of a great job. Wildly creative, his fanciful and sometimes disturbing dream life constantly threatens to usurp his waking world. While the job fails to meet expectations, he does strike up a relationship with his neighbor, Stephanie. As their connection blossoms, the confidence he exudes in his fanciful dream life begins bleeding into his real life. But just as everything is looking up, his insecurities raise their ugly head, and he faces a dilemma that the 'Science of Sleep' may not help him solve. Michel Gondry's science fiction doesn't explore outer, but rather inner, space, playfully reflecting the interaction between the worlds we inhabit: nature, society, and the mind. 'The Science of Sleep' utilizes rudimentary techniques to craft a thoroughly complex vision of the lead character's brain, filled with the anxieties, hopes, fears, and yearnings that lie in all of us.

## **New Room Assignment Map:**



**The Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh**  
322 Mall Boulevard ~ Suite 201 ♦ Monroeville, PA 15146

*For information call (412) 462-4200*